

# MAJOR CHANGE ON THE CARDS FOR WYCOMBE

2-11-73

**WYCOMBE Wanderers may have to make a major change in their line-up for tomorrow's (Saturday) F.A. Cup fourth qualifying round visit to Worthing.** (writes Stuart Earp).

The problem arose last week when Derek Gamblin, Wycombe's international full back, fractured his knee cap in the match against Dulwich Hamlet. Derek has his leg in plaster and will be out of football until after Christmas.

Paul Birdseye replaced him on Saturday, but cannot play tomorrow as he is cup tied. Paul, who has only recently returned to Loakes Park after a spell as manager with Hungerford Town, played for the Hellenic League club in the earlier stages of the cup and is therefore ineligible.

Normally, the obvious replacement would be Ian Rundle, but he has been suffering recently with a bad back injury and seems highly doubtful.

Wanderers therefore have quite a selection problem on their hands.

One solution is to switch Rob Williams to the full back role and bring in Tony Brothers to midfield. Williams has played in the full back position before with no mean success while Brothers will provide more creativity in the middle. Many feel Brothers' chance is long overdue and it could be the opportunity to establish himself in the team on a regular basis.

## EVANS IN?

One other possible team change is Dylan Evans for Steve Perrin upfront. Although Evans

missed the Dulwich game, Perrin has been struggling to reach his top form in recent matches against the top teams in the Rothmans Isthmian League.

Assistant manager John Reardon watched Worthing beat Lewes 2-0 last week and rated them quite highly. He felt they were a good deal sharper than Chatham, beaten 7-0 by Wycombe in the last round, and much tighter in defence. He was also impressed with Worthing's former sprinter McCormack, whose speed played a large part in the victory over Lewes.

Fortunate to have been free of injuries this season, Worthing have used a squad of only 15 players. Their opening six games of the season were all Athenian League, Division One matches. They lost the opening game 2-0 at Cheshunt; beat Eastbourne United 3-1, and Croydon Amateurs 3-2, both at home, won 2-1 at Hounslow, and 1-0 at

Boreham Wood and then lost 3-2 at home to Wembley.

Then they started a long series of cup matches which so far has gone for eight games. In the opening round of the F.A. Cup they drew 0-0 at Pagham and clinched the replay 3-1, won 2-1 at home to Waterlooville (then leaders of Division 1 South of the Southern League) and in the third qualifying round won 2-0 at Littlehampton.

In between they beat Wigmore Athletic 2-1 at home after a replay, following a 1-1 draw away at Lewes at Lewes 2-0 on Saturday both in the Amateur Cup. The other cup game was a 5-1 home win over Midland Bank in the first round of the A.F.A. Invitation Cup.

Worthing officials were approached with a view to transferring Saturday's F.A. Cup fourth qualifying round tie to Wycombe. But after an emergency meeting, home of-

ficials were unanimous in rejecting Wycombe's approach, although financially Worthing agreed they would be better off as their own home gates this season have been poor.

"We have ground advantage and we want to keep it. We hope local people will support this game in a big way so that the attendance may be over 1,000" said secretary Bob Gibb.

As Worthing have no floodlights, tomorrow's tie at Woodside Road will start at 2.30 p.m. Worthing's ground capacity is 5,000 but despite winning cup runs this season attendances have only averaged 300.

Worthing's manager is 36-year-old Dennis Norris, who took charge of Worthing in the close season from local rivals Wigmore Athletic.

Norris was an outside left with Bognor Regis and was on the books of Brighton and Portsmouth as an amateur.

He will not be finalising his side until after training on Thursday evening but is likely to name the side that won at Lewes on Saturday, which was Taylor; Laker, Kochan, Wood, Amyes; Kilby, Gee, Drom; Long, Streeter, McCormack. Substitute Vaughan.

The latest league positions are as follows.

## ROTHMANS ISTHMIAN LEAGUE

Division One					
Hendon	20	14	5	1	35 64
B. Stortford	22	12	5	5	43 16
Dulwich	20	12	5	3	38 14
Hayes	17	10	3	4	31 15
Wycombe	18	8	3	3	30 19
Wat'ns	18	8	5	5	27 16
Enfield	18	8	2	7	24 18
Barking	19	8	3	8	27 20
Tooting	20	8	3	9	24 27
Wal'stw	18	7	5	8	24 26
L'head	14	8	1	5	27 16
Waltham	14	7	4	3	23 18
Oxford	19	8	7	6	22 27
Hitchin	16	6	4	6	27 30
Sutton	16	6	4	6	20 23
Kingston	16	5	5	5	22 18
Bromley	21	5	3	13	24 28
Woking	11	4	1	8	10 20
Ilford	17	3	4	9	13 29
St. Albans	18	2	4	12	19 38
C. Casuals	19	2	1	14	12 39
Clapton	16	2	0	16	9 67

## ATHENIAN LEAGUE

Division 1					
(Up to 27-10-73)					
Boreham	11	8	5	2	17 61
Cheshunt	12	6	5	1	24 81
Rushall	11	7	3	1	22 81
Brith	11	6	4	2	21 16
Ware	7	5	1	1	18 41
Hornchurch	9	4	3	2	15 13
Wembley	12	4	2	6	16 18
Letchworth	9	4	1	4	9 11
Lewes	6	2	4	0	6 2
Worthing	8	4	0	2	11 9
Grays	11	2	4	5	9 13
Hounslow	10	3	2	4	8 13
Edmonton	8	2	3	3	5 6
Croydon Ams.	10	2	3	5	9 16
Marlow	7	2	1	4	8 8
Redhill	9	1	3	5	4 14
Heme Bay	10	1	3	6	3 13
Eastbourne	10	0	1	3	6 28

## Searle spurs England

England 1, West Germany 0

WYCOMBE Wanderers' consistent striker Keith Searle scored the all important goal on his debut for the England's amateur team in their U.E.F.A. Amateur Cup victory over West Germany at Wembley on Wednesday night.

Searle, who came on as substitute for John Butterfield at half-time, had been on the field for only 21 minutes, when he scored from close range after good work by Deadman and Smith. This was enough to give England their first success over West Germany for 60 years and leaves them with a great chance of qualifying from their group for the semi-finals.

If anything the Germans had the better chances in the match, but a combination of fine play by Sutton United's Ted Powell and a series of missed chances prevented them from scoring. Another Wycombe player Larry Pritchard had a relatively quiet game in mid-field.

## Route to Worthing

ANYONE travelling to Worthing for the F.A. Cup, fourth qualifying round tie should take the following route:

FROM HIGH WYCOMBE, to Beaconsfield, Slough, Windsor, Bagshot, on to Guildford and Horsham. From Horsham take A24 to Worthing and in the town turn off right at Northbury Road. Proceed straight across crossroads into Bulkington Avenue. Worthing F.C. is situated on the left-hand side.

## Wright chosen

WYCOMBE Wanderer's goalkeeper D. Wright has been chosen to play for the Berks and Bucks side against the Essex F.A. at Chesham United F.C. on Saturday, November 10.



Dulwich Hamlet's Bernie Mills (10) about to clear this moment of danger from Wycombe's Tony Horseman